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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gretton et al.
Appl. No. : 09/918,257
Filed : July 30, 2001
For : MICROLENS ARRAYS HAVING HIGH FOCUSING
EFFICIENCY

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to its initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph which appears at page 3, line 26, to page 4, line 4, of the specification with the following paragraph:

Other methods, such as those described in U.S. Patent No. 5,300,263, involve the creation of mechanical molds that define receptacles for curable liquids. The liquid is poured into the receptacles and the natural surface tension creates a bowed surface that serves as the microlenses. The mold, with the various receptacles, defines the array arrangement. Due to the inherent limitation of this method in controlling the shape of the microlens units, its efficiency cannot be optimized for a general application. Other mechanical methods based on the direct ruling of individual microlenses, such as diamond turning, are better suited for the fabrication of individual microlenses rather than arrays.

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